

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Old Log House

BA-671

204 Pleasant Hill Road

Baltimore County, MD

The house at 204 Pleasant Hill Road is a two-and-a-half story, three-bay, vernacular style frame I-house. The house rests on a partially stuccoed stone foundation. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance located on the south elevation. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the house's façade and north elevation is sheathed with German siding. The rear and south elevations are covered with asbestos shingles. A nearly centrally located, stuccoed brick chimney rests atop the ridge line of the house's shallow pitched roof.

All of the house's windows are six-over-six, double hung sash, and are covered with modern storm sash. There are small louvered openings in each gable end. The façade second-floor windows retain shutters with a louvered top and a raised panel bottom. The front door is located between the two windows at the southeast corner of the house. A small, gable-front portico supported with square posts on a concrete slab shields the front door. There is a partially enclosed shed-roof porch attached to the northwest corner of the rear elevation. The porch has a concrete foundation and a single, turned post supports the northwest corner of the porch. Four concrete steps lead up to the door at this location.

Although previously noted as a log house, the house at 204 Pleasant Hill Road appears to actually be a frame house. This is determined from the fact the depth of the windows is much narrower than if it were a log house. Otherwise, this house does not appear to be architecturally distinctive, and it has suffered numerous changes over the years. Therefore, it does not appear to be individually eligible for historic architecture. It does appear to retain sufficient integrity to be considered a contributing element of a historic district, if one were present. However, the immediate area does not retain sufficient cohesiveness to be considered a historic district.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐ no ☒

Property Name: Old Log House Inventory Number: BA-671
Address: 204 Pleasant Hill Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Owings Mill Zip Code: 21117-3223 County: Baltimore County
USGS Quadrangle(s): Reisterstown
Property Owner: Pleasant Hill Properties LLC Tax Account ID Number: 0412020927
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 165 Tax Map Number: 58
Project: BA451A11 Agency: SHA
Agency Prepared By: McCormick Taylor, Inc.
Preparer's Name: Jerry Clouse Date Prepared: 2/13/2009
Documentation is presented in: Elizabeth Anderson Comer/Archeology 2008
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes Listed: ☐ yes
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

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Although previously noted as a log house, the house at 204 Pleasant Hill Road appears to actually be a frame house. This is

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Tim J. [Signature]
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services
[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

6/17/09
Date
6/17/09
Date

200901692

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

BA-671

Old Log House

Page 2

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A field verification of the property was conducted by McCormick Taylor in February 2009. The current conditions of the property are consistent with those described by EAC/Archeology (2007).

The house at 204 Pleasant Hill Road is not directly associated with events or patterns significant to local, state, or national history (Criterion A). The property is not associated with any person important to local, state, or national history (Criterion B). The building does not possess exceptional characteristics of homes of the period, is not a work of a master, and does not possess high artistic value (Criterion C). The property does not appear likely to yield significant archaeological information about history or prehistory (Criterion D). The property at 204 Pleasant Hill Road is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

Baltimore County, Maryland

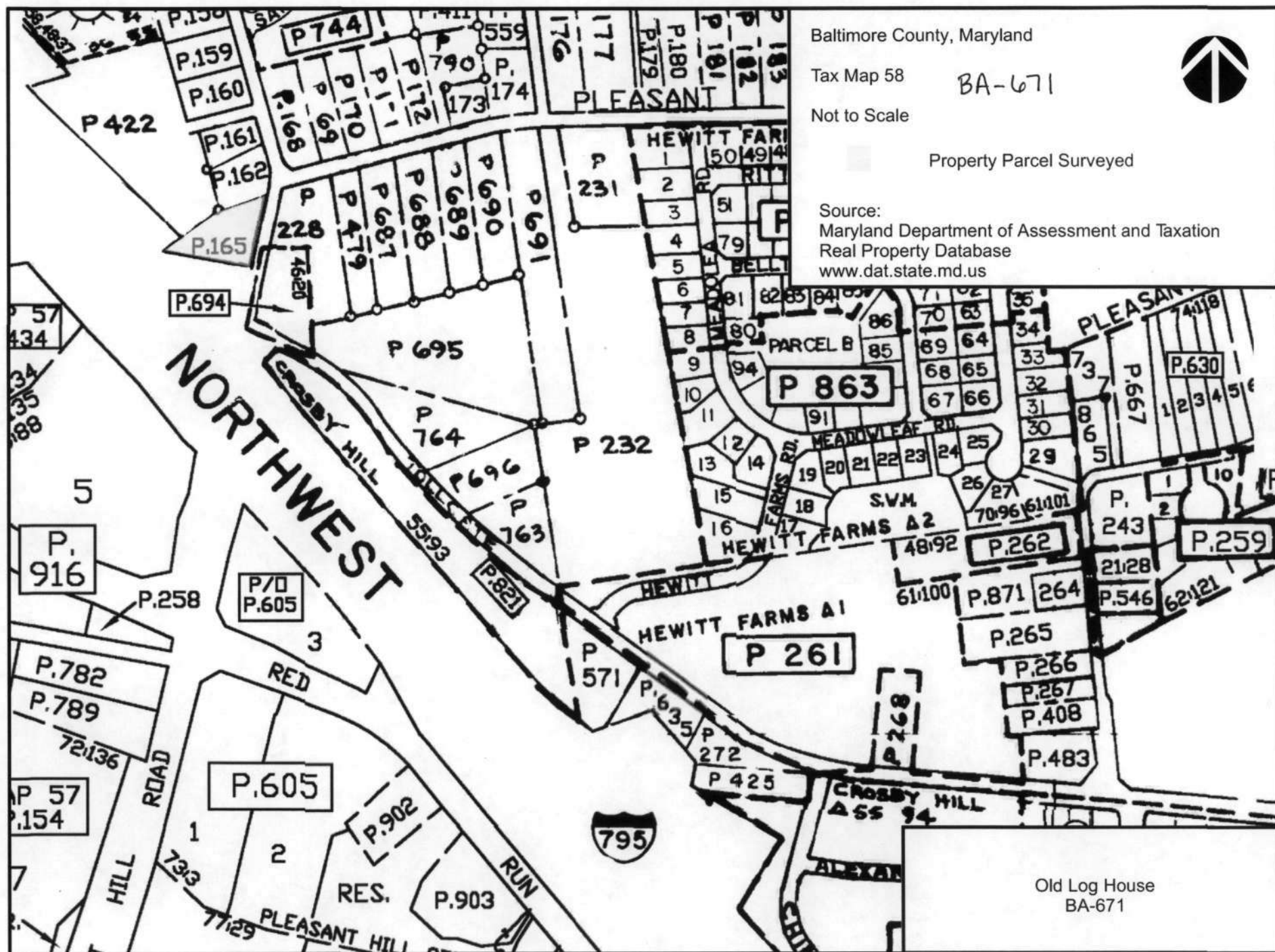
Tax Map 58

BA-671

Not to Scale

Property Parcel Surveyed

Source:
Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation
Real Property Database
www.dat.state.md.us





BA-67
010 Log House
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Baltimore County, MD

Charles Richmond

2/2009

MD SH-20

View Look. Road to the east at north and east
elevation

1/2

METROPHOTO <No. 5 > 006 BN
0797 033+2-1 N-3-46 GR08 MoF 2079.0/100.0



TROY CUSTOM LANDSCAPING

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Licensed & Insured

BA-67
010 Log House
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Baltimore county, MD
Charles Richmond

2/2004
MD SHPO
View Looking northeast at south and west
elevations
2/2

METROPHOTO <No. 4> 005 BN
0797 033+2-1 N-6-35 GR08 MoF 2079.0/100.0

BA-671
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Owings Mills
Late nineteenth-century
private

204 Pleasant Hill Road is a vernacular wood frame I-House with a small interior chimney, a front entry porch and a lean-to addition with an integrated porch. 204 Pleasant Hill Road is one of the few examples of vernacular architecture that was built in this area of Belltown before 1900 that is still standing.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of

Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-671

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other 204 Pleasant Hill Road

2. Location

street and number 204 Pleasant Hill Road not for publication

city, town Owings Mills x vicinity

county Baltimore

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Pleasant Hill Properties LLC

street and number 103 Sudbrook Lane Ste 10 telephone

city, town Baltimore state MD zip code 21208-4121

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courts Building liber 25385 folio 423

city, town Towson tax map 58 tax parcel 165 tax ID number 0412020927

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☒ Other: Baltimore County Office of Planning Survey 2003

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			<u>1</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-671

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

204 Pleasant Hill Road is a vernacular I-House. The house is a two-story, wood frame building covered with German siding on the front façade and north façade and modern wood shingles on the rear façade and south façade. The house has a gable roof, a stone foundation, a small interior chimney, a front entry porch and a lean-too addition with an integrated porch. The house is four-bays wide and one-bay deep.

The side-gable roof has a steep pitch and is covered with asphalt shingles. The small interior chimney is constructed of brick and is located in the center. The stone foundation has a bulkhead on the south façade constructed of the same stone as the foundation.

All the windows are six-over-six, double-hung, wood sash windows. In both gable-peaks are small levered windows. There are no window openings on the south façade. On the second floor, there are only three window openings. The second floor windows have shutters, the top portion is levered and the bottom portion has one raised panel, but all windows have spindles for shutters. The front doorway is off-center (second bay from the south façade).

The front entry porch has a concrete foundation with a front-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The front-gable is covered with German siding and is supported by two front posts.

The lean-too addition is along the north portion of the rear façade with the integrated porch reaching to the north corner of the rear façade. The addition is one-bay wide with a shed roof covered with asphalt shingles. The addition is covered with modern shingles (same as the rear façade and south façade). The integrated porch has a concrete foundation and is four steps above grade. The integrated porch shed roof is supported by one turned column in the northwest corner and has modern metal railing.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-671

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1880-1900

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

204 Pleasant Hill Road is one of the few examples of vernacular architecture that was built in this area of Belltown before 1900 that is still standing. The Belltown community includes two communities living side by side: the African-American community of Belltown which is centered around the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Church on Tollgate Road and in the early twentieth-century expanded on to Featherbed Lane, and the European-American community located around the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Church Road where the Bell store was once located.

In 1754, Thomas Harrison received a land patent from Lord Baltimore for 2700 acres called "Soldiers Delight." In 1799, 120 acres were sold at public auction by the executors of Thomas Harrison's estate to John Lowe. In an 1879 deed (WMI 117:123) for a small part of 120 acre tract, it states that Perry F. Lowe was willed the property by Edward Lowe. It is unclear how Edward Lowe gained ownership of the property.

In 1879, Perry F. and Edith R. Lowe sold a ninety-nine year, renewable lease for 0.65 of an acre to Gustav Wagner. In 1881, Wagner sold the remainder of the ninety-nine year, renewable lease to Martha Louisa Morrow for \$300. Then in 1885, Morrow sold the remainder of the ninety-nine year, renewable lease to Thomas Craddock Brown for \$310. In 1887, Brown sold the remainder of the ninety-nine year, renewable lease to Josephine King for \$200. It is unclear what occurred from the time of Josephine King's purchase of the remainder of the ninety-nine year, renewable lease in 1887 to 1917 when the Baltimore County Circuit Court appointed Louis P. Bolgiano as a trustee to sell the property. In 1917, Bolgiano sold the property to Harry P. Williams.

In an oral history interview with Lee and Roland Fox, who were raised on Pleasant Hill Road, the brothers state that the house was "once inhabited by a Colored family named Madden, but it may have been actually owned by Elias Norris, also Colored" (Richardson 1978). This could be an indication of what occurred to the property between 1887 and 1917. Elias Norris did purchase several tracts of property in the Belltown area. The 1900 Census shows a Joseph J. Madden, an African-American, with his wife and children living the area. On the next page there is an entry for Elias Norris. Four pages prior to the Madden family entry is an entry for the Pape family who lived at 209 Pleasant Hill Road. The 1900 Census also shows a Josephine King living in the area. On the same page as the King entry is an entry for P. F. Lowe who originally sold the ninety-nine year, renewable lease. It is difficult to say if the Maddens or the Kings were living at 204 Pleasant Hill Road in 1900 without more research, but this does indicate that the current dwelling was constructed before 1900. The Fox brothers also believed that there is a log structure under the siding.

In 1919, Harry P. and Elizabeth G. Williams sold the property to John F. and Elva M. Allsopp. In 1937, the property was part of a court case (Judicial Record CWB Jr 450/471) and was sold at public auction to James P. Kelley. In 1943, James P. Kelley sold the property to Elva M. Allsopp. In 1965, the property again was part of a court case. The Baltimore County Circuit Court appointed Melvin F. Blanchard as trustee to sell the property. Blanchard sold the property to Richard E. and Mildred M. Lee. In 2004, Mildred M. Lee sold the property to SAP Development LLC.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-671

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 0.65
Acreage of historical setting 0.65
Quadrangle name Reistertown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property has a triangular shape and is located on the west side of Pleasant Hill Road. The property is bounded on the east by Pleasant Hill Road, on the west by a portion of tax parcel 422 and the Northwest Expressway (I-795), on the north by 1 Church Road and a portion of Tax Parcel 422 and on the south by the Northwest Expressway (I-795).

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Christine Toms/Architectural Historian		
organization	Elizabeth A. Comer Archaeology	date	December 2007
street & number	4303 N. Charles Street	telephone	410-243-6767
city or town	Baltimore	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-671

Name 204 Pleasant Hill Road
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

E.H.T. Traceries

2003 *Baltimore County Architectural Survey: African American Thematic Study, Final Report.* Report prepared for The Baltimore County Office of Planning and The Landmarks Preservation Commission, Towson, MD.

Fischler, Benjamin R., Jean W. French, and Elizabeth A. Comer

2007 *Phase I Archaeological Investigation of the Proposed Dolfield Boulevard Extension Between Reisterstown Road and Tollgate Road, Baltimore County, MD.* Draft report prepared by Elizabeth A. Comer Archaeology for Patton Harris Rust & Associates, P.C., Columbia, MD.

Richardson, Claire

1978 Notes from a conversation with Lee Fox and Roland Fox, brothers, and sons of Henry Louis Fox (known as Harry Lee Fox), who were born and brought up on Pleasant Hill Road, Owings Mills. Manuscript on file at Baltimore County Historical Society.

Baltimore County Deed and Plat Books. Baltimore County Court Clerks Office, Baltimore County Courts Building, Towson, MD.

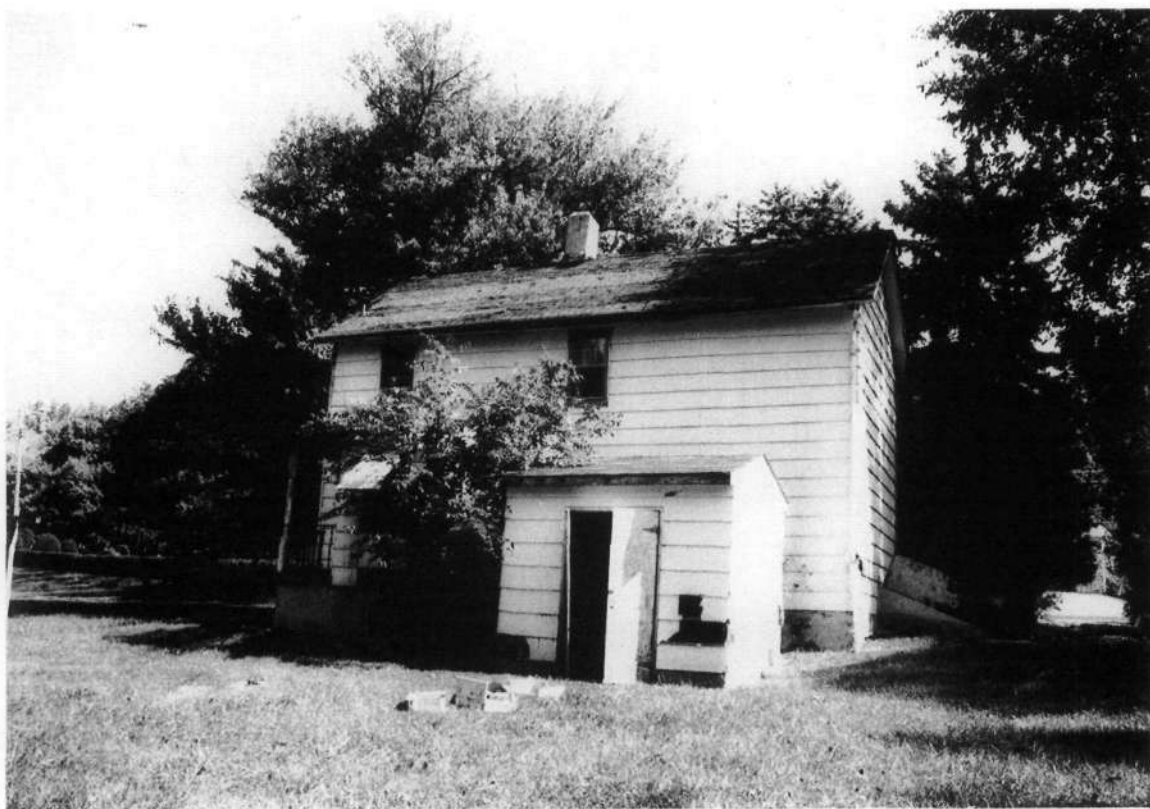
U.S. Bureau of Census. The Census of 1900, Baltimore County, Maryland. National Archives.



BA-671
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Baltimore County, MD
Christine Toms
October 2007
view southeast, front and north façades
#1 of 3



BA-671
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Baltimore County, MD
Christine Toms
October 2007
view south, north façade
#2 of 3



BA-671
204 Pleasant Hill Road
Baltimore County, MD
Christine Toms
October 2007
view northeast, rear and south façades
#3 of 3

BA-671

before 1877

Old Log House

204 Pleasant Hill Road, Owings Mills

Private

OLD LOG HOUSE - Before 1877 - 204 Pleasant Hill Road, south of its right-angle bend. Possibly the D.L. Slade house of the 1877 atlas. Originally a log house, this frame structure is now covered with clapboard. Two stories, gable roof, vernacular style. Three bays in second story, four bays on first, including off-center door. Excellent condition. Owner: Richard E. Lee.